

FURTHER NOTES ON AUSTRALIAN COLEOPTERA,
WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW GENERA AND
SPECIES.

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XIII.

The following pages furnish descriptions of new species, for one of which I have found it necessary to propose a new generic name. They also contain a number of notes on synonymy, &c.

LAMELLICORNES.

PSEUDORYCTES.

P. Mullerianus, White. I have recently seen several examples (all males) of a *Pseudoryctes*, all of which I believe to belong to this species, although they differ considerably in size and in the degree of development of the male characters. In one example the horns of the prothorax are longer than in the others, the middle horn being bifid at the apex. These specimens all come from North Queensland, and (except one generously presented to me) are in the cabinet of Mr. French, of Melbourne.

BUPRESTIDÆ.

PARACEPHALA.

P. cyaneipennis, sp. nov. Sat elongata; subcylindrica; subnitida; ænea, elytris sat læte cyaneis; subtus pilis albidis vestita; capite longitudinaliter sat profunde canaliculato sat crebre striatim ruguloso; prothorace transversim ut caput ruguloso, quam longiori dimidio latiori, inæquali (transversim et longitudinaliter plus minusve sulcato et pone medium in disco obscure 2-tuberculato); elytris crebre subtiliter granuloso-rugulosis, postice singulatim rotundatis et obscure crenulatis. Long., 4 l.; lat., $1\frac{1}{5}$ l.

Apart from colour, this species differs from that which I take to be *P. murina*, Thoms. (and also from *P. ænea*, Blackb.), by the much deeper frontal sulcus of its head. In this character it agrees with *P. pistacina*, Hope.

New South Wales; Sydney; bred by Mr. Froggatt from galls on *Casuarina distyla*.

CLERIDÆ.

AULICUS.

A. parvulus, sp. nov. Nitidus; setis elongatis vestitus; obscure cyaneus, elytris æneis, antennis palpisque testaceis, pedibus piceis (tibiis tarsisque anticis rufescentibus); capite antice crebre postice sparsim punctulato; prothorace quam longiori vix latiori sparsim punctulato; elytris crasse (ad basin et ad apicem minus crasse) subseriatim punctulatis transversim fortiter rugulosis. Long., $2\frac{2}{5}$ l.; lat., $\frac{4}{5}$ l.

This species is characterised by small size, unusual colours (general colour cyaneous, elytra of a bright bronzy tone, antennæ testaceous, legs piceous), and extremely coarse puncturation of elytra, which is only a little less coarse about the base and apex, and which does not run very distinctly in rows owing to the coarseness of the transverse rugulosity.

Victoria; sent to me by Mr. Lower.

BOSTRYCHIDÆ.

XYLOPERTHA.

X. canina, sp. nov. Femina (?). Brevis; cylindrica; minus nitida; picea, prothorace elytrisque antice et pedibus rufescentibus, antennis testaceis; capite sat elongato, longe setoso, postice longitudinaliter sat crebre strigato; antennis prothorace vix brevioribus; prothorace elytrorum latitudine quam longiori parum latiori, antice sat angustato, postice sparsius minus subtiliter punctulato, antice crebre granulato-ruguloso tuberculis nonnullis majoribus intermixtis (præcipue latera versus), utrinque unco supra oculum armato; elytris confertim sat fortiter punctulatis, inter sculpturam fortiter rugatis, postice subito oblique declivibus; elytrorum parte declivi plana fere circulari, carina circumcincta, apice deorsum producta, sutura utraque carinata et in medio ut spina elongata (hac ad apicem extrorsum curvata) retrorsum producta, humeris lævibus. Long., $1\frac{3}{5}$ l.; lat., $\frac{7}{10}$ l.

Viewed from the side this species has a rough resemblance in outline to a dog, the spines protruding from the apical declivity appearing as a single projection, and representing the animal's tail. It is evidently congeneric with the species that I described in Proc. L.S., N.S.W., 1889, pp. 1264, &c., as *Xylopertha*. As I am not sure of the sex of the example before me, and do not see any immediate prospect of obtaining more specimens, I think it is well to describe it, notwithstanding that I think it probably a female (on account of its front tarsi not being clothed with long

hairs as they are in the only congeneric example I have seen, that I feel sure is a male).

N.S. Wales ; Blue Mountains.

TENEBRIONIDÆ.

DOCALIS.

D. maculatus, sp. nov. Sat elongatus ; sat parallelus ; nigropiceus, elytris pone medium macula obscura ferruginea ornatis ; setis brevibus erectis nigris et nonnullis adpressis pallidis vestitus, his maculatim sat crebre condensatis ; capite prothoraceque confertim sat subtiliter granuloso-punctulatis ; hoc inæquali postice leviter angustato, lateribus leviter subconcavis ; elytris sat fortiter striato-punctulatis, interstitiis alternis quam cetera latioribus. Long., $2\frac{1}{5}$ l. ; lat., $\frac{7}{10}$ l.

N.S. Wales ; Blue Mountains.

COTULADES.

C. montanus, sp. nov. Niger, prothorace albo-bivittato, pedibus rufis ; supra setis validis sat brevibus vestitus, his in elytrorum costis hic illic fasciculatis ; capite prothoraceque crassissime punctulatis, puncturis singulis setis singulis granuliformibus instructis ; elytris seriatim crassissime profunde punctulatis et sub-tricostatis. Long $1\frac{1}{5}$ l. ; lat., $\frac{3}{5}$ l.

This minute species is among the smallest of the *Tenebrionidæ*. It seems to be near *C. fascicularis*, Pasc., but is much smaller, with red legs and a fairly well-defined vitta (formed by white setæ) of a somewhat curved form on either side the middle line of the prothorax, &c.

N.S. Wales, Blue Mountains.

MENEPHILUS.

M. sydneyanus. Elongatus, sat parallelus ; sat nitidus ; niger nonnullorum exemplorum antennis pedibusque picescentibus ; capite crebre subtilius punctulato, fronte sat fortiter longitudinaliter impresso ; prothorace leviter transverso, ante basin transversim leviter impresso et ad basin utrinque foveolato, a basi antrorsum (leviter arcuatim) parum angustato, margine antico bisinuato et in medio minute leviter emarginato, angulis omnibus acutis sat productis ; elytris quam prothorax haud multo latioribus, leviter striatis, striis sat fortiter punctulatis, interstitiis subtilissime punctulatis, angulis humeralibus fere rectis.

Mas. Tibiis anticis ad apicem intus fortiter curvatis. Long., $4\frac{1}{5}$ —5 l. ; lat., $1\frac{3}{5}$ — $1\frac{1}{5}$ l.

The prothorax not narrowed and laterally sinuate behind and

also the more convex build gives this species an appearance somewhat different from those of the Australian species known to me that have been attributed to *Menephilus*, but I cannot find any character whereby to distinguish it from them (e.g., *M. colydioides*, Er.).

N.S. Wales, near Sydney ; also in the Blue Mountains.

CISTELID.E.

ALCMÆONIS.

A. punctulaticollis, sp. nov. Sat elongata ; capillis erectis albidis nonnullis vestita ; niger, (exemp'i typici) prothorace elytrisq̄ læte purpureis, labro mandibulis palpis antenarum basi pedibusq̄ læte testaceis ; capite sat fortiter, prothorace multo minus fortiter, crebre punctulatis ; elytris punctulato-striatis, interstitiis sat convexis et inæqualiter punctulatis.

Mas. Antennis quam corporis dimidium sat longioribus ; femoribus compressis, posticis subtus (in medio angulatim) dilatatis, tibiis posticis intus planatis et fortiter bisinuatis.

Femina latet.

Long., $4\frac{1}{5}$ l. ; lat., $1\frac{1}{5}$ l.

This species seems to present the feeble distinctions from *Atractus* on which the genus *Alcmæonis* was established. It appears to differ from *A. pulchra*, Bates, considerably in color, the prothorax of that species being described as castaneous with some black markings, and the elytra as green with purple reflections and silky golden pubescence, whereas in the present insect the prothorax and elytra are of uniform bright purple color and the thinly dispersed hairs on the latter are whitish. The prothorax of *A. pulchra* is said to be longer than wide, whereas that of *A. punctulaticollis* is (by measurement) slightly wider than long. Even if it should prove to be a variety of *A. pulchra*, it seems desirable that the present insect should be described, as no description has hitherto appeared of a male *Alcmæonis*.

Victoria ; Alpine district.

LICYMNIUS.

L. bicolor, sp. nov. Mas. (?). Elongatus ; breviter minus crebre pubescens ; niger vix cyaneus, prothorace læte rufo, palpis femorum anticorum basi et genibus omnibus rufescentibus ; capite fortiter minus crebre punctulato ; prothorace leviter transverso, longitudinaliter vix impresso, ante basin mediam leviter foveolato, subfortiter minus crebre punctulato, antice angustato, lateribus leviter arcuatis, basi manifeste sinuata, angulis posticis distinctis obtusis ; elytris ad basin quam prothoracis basis haud multo latioribus, suturam versus

manifeste latera versus haud manifeste striatis, fortiter (fere ut caput) crebre punctulatis, puncturis subseriatim dispositis; antennis sat elongatis sat compressis; tibiis anticis leviter flexuosis. Long., $2\frac{1}{2}$ l.; lat., $\frac{4}{5}$ l.

S. Australia; Adelaide District.

ANAXO.

A. sydneyanus (? *æreus*, Blackb., var.). Femina. Ab *æreo* differt prothoracis lateribus paullo minus arcuatis, antennis (nonnullorum exemplorum articulo 2° rufescenti excepto) totis nigris.

I took three specimens of this insect on flowers near Sydney, and am in doubt whether it should be regarded as a distinct species or merely a local race of the Victorian *A. æreus*, Blackb. I have seen a good many females of the latter, in all of which the antennæ have all the joints, except the first and the apical two or three, bright-red in their basal half (in some specimens almost entirely red), while in all these Sydney examples the antennæ are quite black, except that in one of them the second joint is a little reddish, the sides of the prothorax at the same time being certainly straighter, which makes that segment appear a little more elongate. Since I described *A. æreus* I have obtained a specimen which I regard as the male of that species. It differs from the female in being much smaller (long., $3\frac{1}{4}$ l.), and in having its antennæ and femora black, and its hind tibiæ considerably dilated. It must be remarkably like the insect which Mr. Bates described as *Chromomera unicolor*, but it is certainly, I think, the male of *Anaxo æreus*, and I feel convinced that *A. æreus*, female, cannot be separated generically from *A. brevicornis*, Bates (the type of the genus), of which its author says that he had seen only the female—indeed, *A. æreus* and *brevicornis* are very close even as species, though certainly distinct.

PYTHID.Æ.

TRICHOSALPINGUS.

T. obscurus, sp. nov. Oblongo-ovatus; minus nitidus; subtiliter pubescens; crebre (prothorace minus crebre) punctulatus; obscure brunneus, tarsis testaceis; antennis prothoracis basin attingentibus; prothorace quam caput vix latiori, sat transversim quadrato, ante basin utrinque leviter impresso; elytris quam prothorax basi multo latioribus, a basi longe ultra medium leviter dilatatis. Long., $1\frac{1}{3}$ l.; lat., $\frac{1}{2}$ l.

Very like *T. brunneus*, Blackb., but much smaller, differently coloured, and having the puncturation of the prothorax much less crowded, and the basal impressions of the same very much feebler. N.S. Wales; Blue Mountains.

EDEMERIDÆ.

PSEUDANANCA (*gen. nov.*).

Palporum maxillariorum articulus apicalis magnus securiformis; labrum transversum antice subtruncatum; caput antice paullo elongatum; oculi magni prominuli rotundati sat grosse granulati; antennæ prope oculos insertæ, 11-articulatæ (?), capillis elongatis erectis vestitæ, articulis 4-10 (? articulis 10^o, 11^o que exempli typici amissis) intus ante apicem sat fortiter angulatim productis; prothorax subcylindricus; elytra sat elongata, coxæ intermediæ et posticæ minus inter se approximatae; tibiæ vix manifeste ad apicem spinosæ; tarsi sat graciles, articulo penultimo subtus sat fortiter sat anguste producto, intermediis subtus capillis perlongis vestitis; unguiculi fere simplices, ad basin paullo dilatati; corpus breviter pubescens.

The very small heteromerous beetle for which I propose this new name is difficult to place satisfactorily. The following characters in combination seem, however, to point to the *Edemerides* as its allies, viz., anterior coxæ strongly prominent and open behind, claws simple (or nearly so), eyes entire, head not narrowed into a distinct neck behind the eyes, penultimate joint of tarsi strongly produced under the apical joint, hind coxæ considerably separated from each other. The most puzzling character is the very considerable separation *inter se* of the intermediate coxæ, which, however, are shaped as those of *Ananca*. In some respects this species seems to be near *Ithaca*, Olliff, but it cannot be referred to that genus, even if it be a female (though I think it is a male) on account, *inter alia*, of the penultimate joint of its tarsi not being bilobed. It is an elongate insect of decidedly *Edemerid* facies.

P. ruficollis, sp. nov. Sat elongata, minus parallela, breviter subtiliter pubescens; sat opaca; nigra, prothorace femorum basi tibiisque (his 2 plus minusve infuscatis) rufis, antennis basin versus picescentibus; supra sat æqualiter sat crebre sat fortiter punctulata; capite (oculis inclusis) quam prothorax paullo latiori; hoc leviter transverso subcylindrico supra inæquali; elytris quam prothorax duplo latioribus; antennis quam corporis dimidium sat longioribus; metasterno crasse fortiter sat crebre, abdomine minus fortiter magis crebre, punctulatis; femoribus posticis (? maris) a basi fere ad apicem albidis et confertim pubescentibus. Long., $1\frac{1}{5}$ l.; lat., $\frac{2}{5}$ l.

N.S. Wales; Blue Mountains.

SESSINIA.

S. sublineata, Waterh. I have a short series (taken on flowers

on the Blue Mountain range) of a species which I cannot separate from the Tasmanian *S. sublineata*. It is, however, considerably smaller, the largest examples being less than two and a-half lines long.

MORDELLIDÆ.

MORDELLA.

M. inusitata, sp. nov. Dense cinereo-pubescentis; capitis pube in disco infuscata, prothoracis longitudinaliter in medio infuscata, elytrorum antice maculatim et in parte dimidia postica tota (fascia ante-apicali angusta excepta) infuscata; pedibus anterioribus 4 testaceis, tarsis posticis antennisque rufescentibus; aculeo et abdominis apice nigris; prothorace quam longiori sat latiori. Long., 2 l.; lat., $\frac{2}{3}$ l.

A peculiarly coloured species devoid of the shining sericeous tone so usual in the genus. The whole insect is densely clothed with ashy pubescence, which is somewhat variably shaded in certain parts to a more or less dark-brown colour; this dark-brown shading occupies the greater part of the hind half of the head; it forms two narrowly separated lines down the middle of the prothorax; and on each elytron it appears as three elongate spots side by side close to the base, an indistinct narrow zigzag fascia a little behind the spots, a well-defined wide fascia immediately behind the middle, and a variable blotch or cluster of spots filling up the greater part of the apical fifth-part, and separated from the post-median fascia by a narrow zigzag fascia-like interval of the general pale-ashy colour.

This insect perhaps resembles *M. mixta*, Fab., but I do not think it can be identical with it, as that species is said to be "major," and is described as having a black ("atra") spot on either side of the prothorax, and a red fascia on the elytra. Also perhaps resembles *M. promiscua*, Er., which species, however, is said to have black legs and antennæ, and black tomentum on the sides of the prothorax and of the abdomen, &c., &c.

N.S. Wales, Sydney; on flowers.

M. maculatissima, sp. nov. Robusta; nigra; dense nigro-pubescentis; supra maculis parvis plurimis albidis pubescentibus ornata; corpore subtus plus minusve albidis pubescentibus, ore et antennarum basi læte rufis; prothorace quam longiori sat latiori. Long., $3\frac{1}{2}$ l.; lat., $1\frac{1}{3}$ l.

A fine robust species, above the average size. The prothorax and elytra are covered with a large number of small spots, formed by white pubescence (there are at least 40 on each elytron), some of which coalesce here and there, forming larger spots. Probably this coalescence of the spots is variable; in the typical specimen those along the base of the elytra are a good

deal (but irregularly) run together, those near the suture a little behind the scutellum coalesce into a kind of common cluster, and two or three coalesce near the apical part of the lateral margins, the larger spot thus formed being isolated on one elytron and on the other sending out an extension (*i.e.*, running into another spot), which is almost connected with a spot close to the suture. The pubescence of the head, legs, and undersurface appears to be black or whitish, according to the point from which it is looked at.

This species is probably near *M. pulverulenta*, Macl., from N. Queensland, which seems to be the only other described Australian species with the markings of the upper surface consisting of a great number of small white spots (*M. multiguttata*, Waterh., is described as having only seven spots, and those yellow, on each elytron). *M. pulverulenta* appears to be a much smaller species (long., 2 l.), and is described (its white pubescence excepted) as entirely black, saving the front legs, piceous. As the front legs of the present species are of the same blackish color as the other legs, and the mouth and base of the antennæ are bright red, it may be assumed that these characters, together with the very different size and habitat, point to specific distinctness.

N.S. Wales; on flowers near Sydney.

M. cara, sp. nov. Nigra; dense nigro-pubescent; capite prothorace postice et ad latera, elytrorum basi (hac anguste) sutura antice macula ovali discoidali (hac paullo pone basin posita) macula antemediana (hac V reversam simulanti) et macula transversa ante apicem posita, læte aureis; corporis subtus lateribus abdominis maculis parvis lateralibus tibiisque posticis argenteis. Long., 2 l.; lat., $\frac{2}{3}$ l.

It seems impossible to find any distinctive characters for many of the very numerous Australian species of *Mordella* apart from colour, markings, and size, all of which, however, as far as my observations go, appear to be fairly constant. Of the present species I have seen several examples all quite identical. Their distinctive characters appear to be (*a*) strongly contrasted silvery pubescence of the under surface, and golden of the upper; (*b*) conspicuous golden colour of the front one-fifth part of the suture; (*c*) the sharply-defined brilliant golden spot near, but not joined to, the base on the disc of each elytron; (*d*) the entire absence of any rufous colouring of the legs and antennæ, even the latter scarcely tending to a piceous tone—this, however, being possibly only sexual.

N.S. Wales; near Sydney.

M. sydneyana, sp. nov. Nigra; dense nigro-pubescent; capite, prothorace (linea media et macula utrinque exceptis),

elytrorum basi anguste sutura antice macula elongata discoidali basin attingenti macula antemediana lunata et macula postmediana rotundata læte argenteis; corpore subtus (certo adspectu) toto argenteo-pubescenti; ore palpis antennarum basi et femoribus anticis rufis. Long., 2 l.; lat., $\frac{4}{5}$ l.

This species is near *M. communis*, Waterh., but is narrower and more elongate, and with markings so different that even if the discovery of intermediate forms should bring the two together it would be convenient to call it by a distinctive name. The silvery markings of the elytra are extremely sharply defined and conspicuous, consisting of a short narrow vitta on the front part of the suture, and on each elytron the following:—A short wide vitta running hindward from the middle of the base, a semilunar spot (its convex side forward) close in front of the middle, and a round spot distant from the suture considerably in front of the apex. The markings differ from those of *communis* in there being no isolated spot behind the base, in a large semilunar spot taking the place of the two small spots in front of the middle, and in the hindmost spot being larger, rounder, not nearly so close to the suture, and not quite so near the apex. This is not the “var.?” of *communis* from Sydney mentioned by Mr. Waterhouse (Tr. E. S., 1878, p. 231).

N.S. Wales; near Sydney.

M. Baldiensis, Blackb. (Tr. R. Soc. S.A., 1891, p. 341). I have taken specimens of a *Mordella* near Sydney, and also on the Blue Mountain Range, which I cannot separate from this Victorian species except by their very small size (long., 1 l.). I suspect, however, that they represent a distinct species, especially as some examples have the antennæ and front legs decidedly rufescent—probably a sexual character which I find scarcely marked in *Baldiensis*.

PHYTOPHAGA.

CHEILOXENA.

C. Frenche, sp. nov. Elongata; convexa; opaca; picea, squamis piliformibus griseo-brunneis (his in prothorace crebre, in elytris minus crebre—sed hic illic maculatim condensatis—dispositis) vestita; prothorace quam latiori fere longiori, utrinque ante medium crista insigni ornato, ad latera haud dentato; elytris subfortiter vix seriatim punctulatis, tuberculis sat numerosis ornatis (ex his in utroque elytro quam ceteri magis insignes quinque—sc. alio humerali, alio subbasali prope suturam, alio antemediano prope suturam, aliis 2 fere contiguus transversim positus postmedianis). Long., 7 l.; lat., 3 l.

This extremely distinct species was taken by Mrs. French, of Melbourne. As will be seen by the above description, it is so distinct from *C. Westwoodi*, Baly, that it can hardly be necessary to specify the difference. The prothorax is of very peculiar form, an ill-defined ridge commencing near the base on either side, very wide of the middle line, and running obliquely forward for a certain distance, until its direction (near the front) becomes parallel to the middle line, and at the same place the ill-defined ridge changes into a very strongly elevated crest. The base of the elytra is nearly twice as wide as the widest part of the prothorax. The absence of lateral teeth from the prothorax is noteworthy, as M. Lacordaire regards their presence as a generic character. There is, however, no doubt about this insect being congeneric with *C. Westwoodi*.

Victoria; Latrobe R. District.

MICRODONACIA (gen. nov. *Donacidarum*).

Gen. *Donaciæ* affinis; differt capite antice minus productum, femoribus minus elongatis sat incrassatis, unguiculis parvis appendiculatis divaricatis.

The minute insect for which I propose this new generic name is certainly, I think, very close to *Donacia*. I have not been able to devote a specimen to dissection, and so am not able to state positively that the parts of the mouth requiring dissection for their examination (*e.g.*, the ligula and mentum) are exactly as in *Donacia*, but with this reservation, the characters of *Donacia* given by Dr. Chapuis (Gen. Col., X., p. 57), with the exceptions noted above, are the characters of the present species. It may be at once distinguished among the *Phytophaga* by the following characters in combination:—Long slender antennæ inserted well in front of the eyes and notably nearer to the centre line of the head than is the inner margin of the eyes, base of prothorax much narrower than base of elytra, prothorax not distinctly margined laterally, anterior coxæ almost contiguous, claws appendiculate.

M. incerta, sp. nov. Colore variabilis, testacea vel brunnea plus minus æneo-vel viridi-micans; minus nitida; sat elongata; capite prothoraceque fortiter crebre sat rugulose punctulatis; illo sat brevi sat æqualiter leviter convexo; oculis modice convexis, quam antennarum articulorum 3ⁱ 4ⁱ que conjunctorum longitudine fere magis inter se remotis; antennis quam corporis dimidium (maris multo, feminae vix) longioribus, articulo basali sat incrassato, 2^o 3^o que brevioribus inter se æqualibus, 4^o quam basalis longiori, ceteris inter se et basali longitudine subæqualibus; prothorace vix transverso, ante basin transversim subsulcato, antice quam postice vix

latiori, lateribus antice subtiliter submarginatis mox ante medium fortiter angulatim dilatatis; elytris trans humeros quam prothoracis basis fere duplo latioribus, setis erectis sparsim vestitis, sat fortiter punctulato-striatis, interstitiis sublævibus; pedibus minus elongatis; femoribus sat dilatatis, anticis dente sub obsoleto intermediis dente sat perspicuo posticis dentibus 2 magnis (his transversim positus) subtus armatis; tibiis sinuatis ad apicem subdilatatis. Long., $1\frac{1}{2}$ l.; lat., $\frac{1}{2}$ l. (vix).

Victoria; in marshy places on the higher mountains of the Alpine district.

CRYPTOCEPHALUS.

C. Chapuisi, Baly. This species is certainly, I think, the same that Dr. Chapuis named *C. iridiventris*. I have been able to examine a type from Dr. Chapuis' collection through the courtesy of M. Severin, of Brussels. The two descriptions are in almost identical language. They were published in the same year (1877), Dr. Chapuis' apparently before Mr. Baly's. I think this synonymy has not been previously noted.

EROTYLIDÆ.

LANGURIA.

L. Vandepolli, Fowler. There can hardly be a doubt that this species was founded upon the insect which von Harold had previously described as *L. vulgaris*. I believe this synonymy has not yet been recorded.

COCCINELLIDÆ.

RHIZOBIUS.

R. major, Black. In Trans. Roy. Soc. S.A., 1892, p. 253, line 11, for "general form" read "pubescence."

R. cœrulens, Blackb. This name was incorrectly printed, *R. "cœrulens,"* vide Tr. Roy. Soc., S.A., 1892, p. 256.

GYMNOSCYMNUS.

G. quadrimaculatus, Blackb. In describing this species (op. cit., p. 242) I accidentally omitted to say that it is found in N.S. Wales.